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THE NEW ENGRAVING FOR THE
SIXTH YEAR.

"Shakspeare and His Friends"

ONE of the most truly superb steel engravings ever offered to the American public, has been secured by the "Cosmopolitan Art Association," for presentation to subscribers for this, its sixth, year. It is the celebrated "*Shakspeare and His Friends*," painted by John Faed, R. S. A., and engraved by his brother, James Faed, one of the best of living engravers. This magnificent plate was engraved to sell only to special subscribers, at forty dollars for a proof and twenty for a print. Owing to its elaborate character it was not completed until eighteen months after its promised delivery to subscribers, which left the original owners (the house of Lloyd Brothers, London), unable to keep good their promises, and induced them to consent to the disposition of the plate and copyright. After many months of negotiation and the payment of a large sum of money, the directory of the "Cosmopolitan Art Association" have become its fortunate possessors; and they now have the pleasure of announcing to the public that it will be the presentation plate for this year (the sixth).

The engraving is, in size 22 by 28 inches, on heavy plate paper, 30 by 38 inches. It embraces a group of fifteen persons, "Shakspeare and His Friends;" giving their authentic portraits, *en costume* of Queen Elizabeth's time. The figures are disposed in standing and sitting postures. Shakspeare, the central subject, is discoursing to "the Club," and all are subordinated to this fact, in a listening attitude. We have:

- 1st. SHAKSPEARE,
- 2d. BEN JONSON,
- 3d. SIR WALTER RALEIGH,
- 4th. BACON,
- 5th. BEAUMONT,
- 6th. FLETCHER,
- 7th. SELDON,
- 8th. SYLVESTER,
- 9th. EARL OF DORSET,
- 10th. CAMDEN,
- 11th. DONNE,
- 12th. EARL OF SOUTHAMPTON,
- 13th. SIR ROBERT COTTON,
- 14th. DEKKER,
- 15th. DANIEL.

All these personages are portrayed in a manner to excite astonishment at the grace, beauty, and life-like correctness of the whole. The engraving is pronounced by the most competent judges of the graver's work, to be one of the finest specimens produced by the modern burin. The whole force of light and shade is brought to bear upon each particular figure, and all is given with the most exquisite detail—portraits, figures, drapery, and adjuncts, all worked in with a patience which few artists could or would have bestowed. This renders it, as a work of art, of high value; while its historic and personal associations give to the picture an interest and language which attach to no other engraving now before the public.

It is the purpose of the directory to furnish this masterpiece at the usual terms, viz.: *three dollars*, the payment of which sum entitles the subscriber to

1st. The engraving "Shakspeare and His Friends."

2d. The "Cosmopolitan Art Journal," for one year.

3d. Two months' admission to the Dusseldorf Gallery.

The subscriber *also* receives a certificate of membership in the "Cosmopolitan Art Association," which entitles him to share in the annual award of premiums, which this year will embrace a finer collection of art-works than ever before was offered as a gratuity.

It may be confidently asserted that so much never was given for the same amount of subscription, by any art or literary enterprise in the world; and this offer may well challenge the attention of every lover of art and literature in the country.

The steel arrived by the *Niagara*, at Boston, early in May, and was immediately placed in the hands of two of the best plate printers in this country, who will carefully superintend the impressing, and prosecute it vigorously during all the coming summer and fall, so that the directory will be able to meet all orders *immediately*, and thus do away entirely with the "waiting for their turn to come," which, hitherto, has proved so annoying to all parties. The arrangements are such that the new engraving will be delivered (after August first) to the subscriber as soon after the reception of his subscription as the name can be got upon the books and into the mail depart-

ment for delivery to the mail or express. It will be carefully and securely packed in a case of heavy board, and sent to any part of the United States, *prepaid*. This places it within the reach of all; and the directory hope their truly liberal offer will meet with a wide acceptance.

Impressions will be furnished exactly in the order of the entry of names on the books—first come first served will be the rule. Those, therefore, desirous of the earlier impressions from the plate should not delay to send in their subscriptions. The delivery will commence on the first day of September, and thereafter will be continued without any delay or detention.

It is, of course, to be understood that all the heretofore engravings, viz.: "Saturday Night," "Manifest Destiny," and "The Village Blacksmith," remain on the list, for the choice of the subscribers. The engravings (plates and copyrights) are entirely controlled by the Association, and will be retained for the exclusive benefit of members. "The trade" is not supplied at any price. Offers of a tempting character have been made repeatedly, by dealers, for print impressions of these plates, but in all cases refused, that subscribers to the Association alone might be in possession of the prints. Hence, all wishing for impressions of the several engravings named must obtain them through the Association, which makes the following offers for the benefit of parties wishing for the several prints, viz.:

The payment of *Five Dollars* will entitle the subscriber to one copy of "Shakspeare and His Friends," one copy of "The Village Blacksmith," one copy of the "*Cosmopolitan Art Journal*" (one year), and *two* certificates of membership.

The payment of *Seven Dollars* will entitle the subscriber to one copy of "Shakspeare and His Friends," one copy of "The Village Blacksmith," one copy of "Saturday Night," one copy of the "*Cosmopolitan Art Journal*" (one year), and *three* certificates of membership.

The payment of *Nine Dollars* will entitle the subscriber to one copy of "Shakspeare and His Friends," one copy of "The Village Blacksmith," one copy of "Saturday Night," one copy of "Manifest Destiny," one copy of the "*Cosmopolitan Art Journal*" (one year), and *four* certificates of membership.

All orders upon these unprecedented liberal offers will be attended to without delay. The engravings will be carefully packed, and sent, *post-paid*, to any part of the country, the Canadas excepted, which will pay their own (British) postage.

Single subscriptions are uniformly *Three Dollars*, which furnishes any one of the above engravings that may be chosen, the *Art Journal* for one year, and one certificate of membership. (*Every certificate given, is, of course, one share in the Annual Premium Awards.*)

These are the general and standing offers for the year, and from which there can be no deviation. They are, beyond all question, the most liberal ever made to the picture-loving public. That they will give the utmost satisfaction the directory are confident, and they make them in the full assurance of a larger list of subscribers for the present year than has yet seconded their endeavors to spread art and literature throughout the land.